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NEWS AND NOTES

Professor Martin Nordgaard has been appointed head of the department of mathematics in Antioch College. He was recently granted the Ph.D. degree by Columbia University.

Mr. Ralph Beatley, for some time head of the department of mathematics in the Horace Mann School for Boys, in New York City, has been appointed to an important position in Harvard University. He will have charge of the professional courses in the teaching and supervision of mathematics.

The Ohio State Educational Conference is stimulating research among the various sections. The program of the Mathematics Section of the second annual meeting (March, 1922) consisted of:

Address, "The Benefits of Grouping Students in Mathematics on the Basis of Ability," D. W. Werremeyer, West Technical High School, Cleveland.

Address, "The Content of the Course in Mathematics for the Junior High School," Amy F. Preston, Roosevelt High School, Columbus.

Address, "Should the Content of Mathematical Courses Be Limited to the Needs of the Child?" J. C. Boldt, Steele High School, Dayton.

M. M. Mansperger, Principal of Barnesville High School, presiding.

Teachers of mathematics will be interested in the Junior Mathematical and Drawing Set which the Keuffel & Esser Company (New York and Chicago) has recently announced. It is an inexpensive, high grade set consisting of a pair of compasses, a brass protractor, enameled in a way to be easily read, an inch-metric ruler and samples of cross section paper. The new junior high school courses, as well as the standard introduction to demonstrative geometry, present a very real need for a set like this one. It sells for about thirty-five cents.

The National Committee on Mathematical Requirements regrets to announce that, owing to unfortunate delays in printing, its complete report, "The Reorganization of Mathematics in Secondary Education," will not be ready for distribution before

May, 1922. Requests for free copies of this 500-page report may be sent to J. W. Young, Chairman, Hanover, New Hampshire. Owing to the labor and expense involved, the receipt of applications for copies of the report is not in general being individually acknowledged. Applicants may rest assured, however, that their requests will be filled when the report is ready for distribution.

THE New York Section of the Association of Teachers of Mathematics in the Middle States and Maryland held its spring meeting on March 10, 1922.

"How to Teach," was the general topic of the program. The specific subjects and speakers were: "How to Teach the First Three Lessons of Geometry," Mr. Charles Burton Walsh; "How to Teach the First Three Lessons of Algebra," Miss Ruth Barry; "Some Things Worth Teaching to a Ninth Grade Class of Boys," Mr. Ralph Beatley; "Some Things Worth Teaching in an Appreciation Course for Girls in the Tenth School Year," Miss Vevia Blair; "How to Teach Graphs," Mrs. Jean F. Brown; "How to Teach an Operative System of Symbols in Metrical Geometry," Mr. Howard F. Hart; "How to Teach Addition and Subtraction of Fractions," Mr. John R. Clark. Raleigh Schorling is chairman of the section.

THE spring meeting of the Association of Teachers of Mathematics in the Middle States and Maryland was held Saturday, May 6, 1922, at Teachers' College, Columbia University.

Professor Edward L. Thorndike discussed "The Psychology of Drill in Algebra."

Dr. Ben D. Wood spoke on "Suggested Improvements in Mathematics Examinations."

The officers of the association are: President, Charles B. Walsh, Friends' Central School, Philadelphia, Pa.; Vice President, Elizabeth Johnson, Baldwin School, Bryn Mawr, Pa.; Secretary, John C. Bechtel, Germantown High School, Philadelphia, Pa.; Treasurer, Clarence P. Scoborio, Polytechnic Preparatory School, Brooklyn, N. Y.

SCIENCE for March 31, 1922, contains various addresses delivered at the recent dedication of the Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics at Pasadena, Cal. This was a notable event in the progress of science. Teachers of mathematics will be interested in the following from the address of Dr. R. A. Millikan delivered on that occasion:

"With the gradual disappearance of the classics and the rigid discipline which they furnished, as the basis of our higher educational system, there have been slowly creeping into it (American education) during the past two decades certain emasculating influences which need to be counteracted. There is no Elisha upon whom the mantle of the classics can fall except the mathematical and physical sciences. There is no training like that which they furnish for teaching men to apply themselves intensively, to observe carefully and correctly, to treat their data honestly and dispassionately, and to reason objectively from a given set of conditions to their inevitable consequences —in a word to see clearly and to think straight. Indeed, there is nothing else left to constitute the backbone of the training of the coming generation if it is to maintain the virility and the strength of those who have preceded. The institute hopes to do some pioneer work in demonstrating the values of an education having the mathematical and physical sciences for its backbone. I accept this gift, then, in behalf of American education in the confident belief that the intensive training in the mathematical and physical sciences which will take place within its walls may exert a wholesome, yes, a saving influence upon American education as a whole."—By Alfred Davis.